

CRS/DSB

The overall exemptions for this document are (b)(1) and (b)(3). 1E61

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C/11 C/1 Brief 76-095

APPROVED FOR RELEASE  
DATE: SEP 2000

F(b)(1)  
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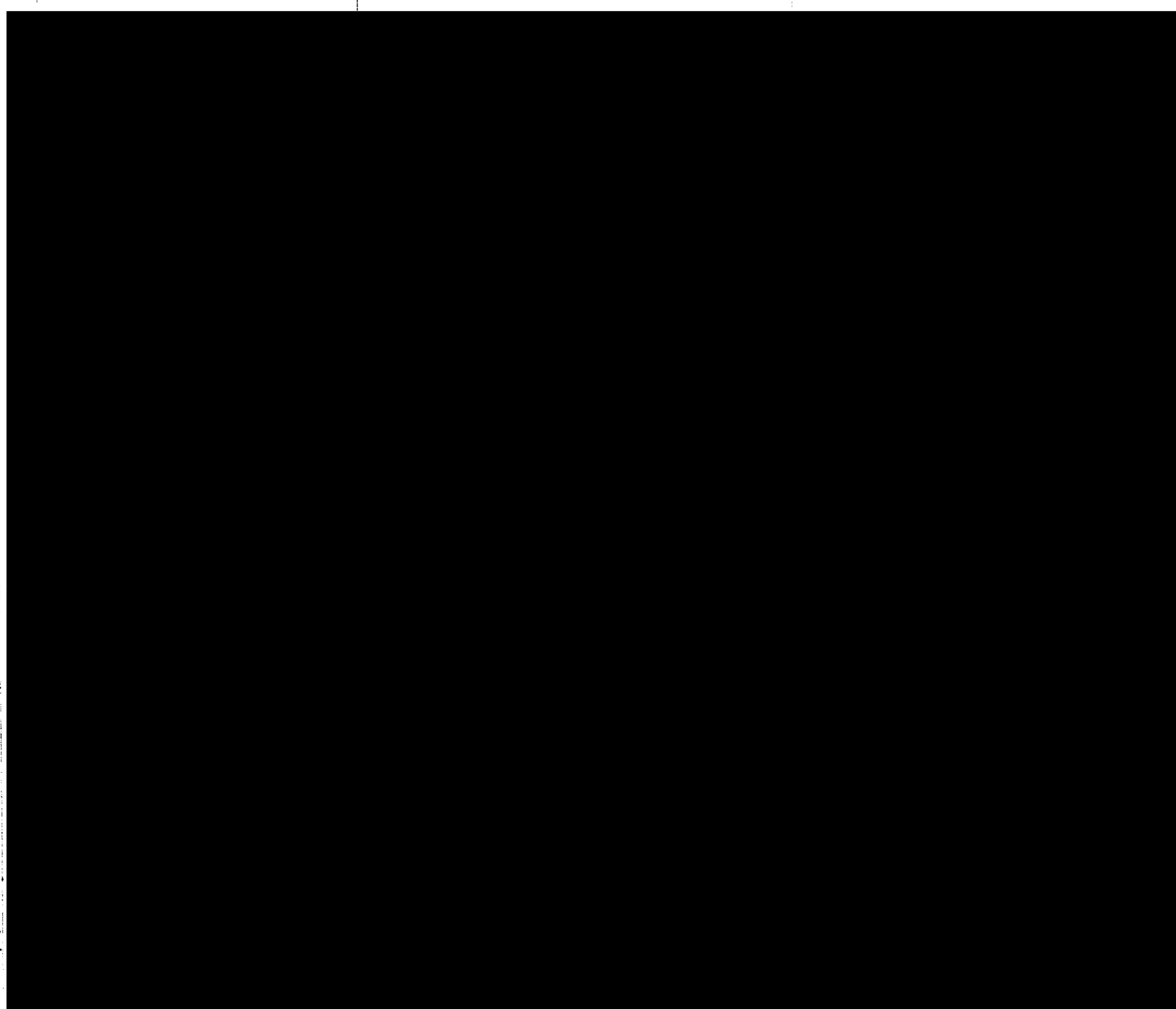
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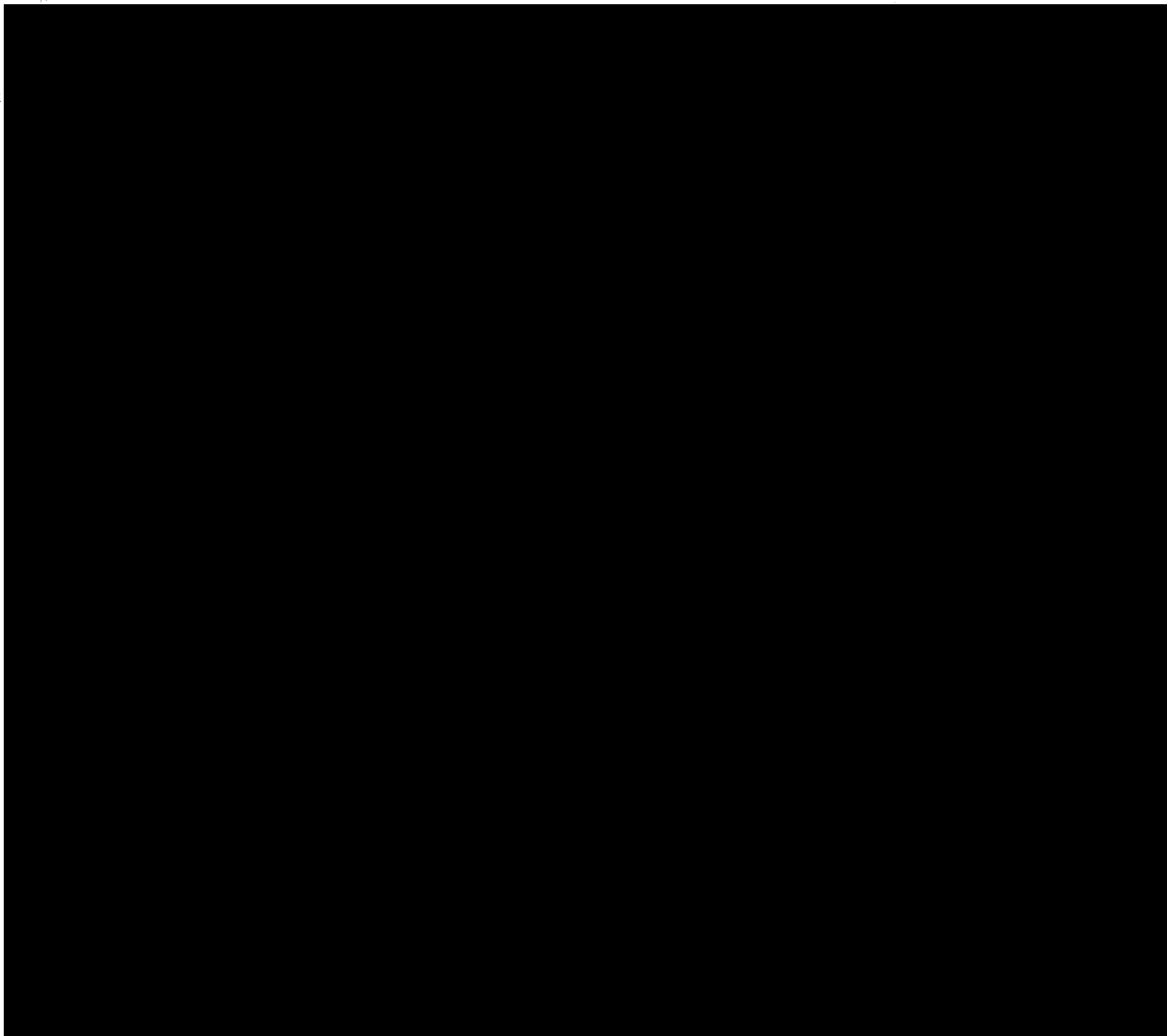
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4. PORTUGAL: [REDACTED] THE GATHERING MOMENTUM OF GENERAL RAMALHO EANES' CAMPAIGN FOR THE PORTUGUESE PRESIDENCY APPEARS TO BE FORCING HIS CHIEF RIVAL, PRIME MINISTER AZEVEDO, TO ADOPT MORE DESPERATE CAMPAIGN TACTICS.4

██████████ FOLLOWING A RECENT POLL WHICH SHOWED EANES WITH A WIDE LEAD, AZEVEDO DENOUNCED HIS OPPONENT AS "DANGEROUS" AND SAID THAT A VOTE FOR EANES, WHOSE POLITICAL VIEWS REMAIN SOMEWHAT OBSCURE, "WOULD BE LIKE WRITING A BLANK CHECK."

[REDACTED] SAID PRIVATELY THAT THE  
ATTACK WAS CALCULATED TO PROVOKE AN ILL-CONSIDERED RESPONSE FROM  
EANES, BUT THE GAMBIT APPEARS TO HAVE FAILED.4

MEANWHILE, AN EANES CAMPAIGN TRIP TO THE AZORES HAS TRIGGERED A FLARE-UP BY SEPARATIST GROUPS. ON THE MAIN ISLAND OF SAO MIGUEL EARLY WEDNESDAY A CROWD OF SEVERAL HUNDRED ANGRY YOUTHS THREW A SMALL BOMB AND SHOUTED FOR A REFERENDUM ON AUTONOMY.4

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THE DEMONSTRATION, PROBABLY THE WORK OF THE INDEPENDENCE-MINDED AZOREAN LIBERATION FRONT, SEEMED LESS A PERSONAL ATTACK ON THE CANDIDATE THAN A PROTEST OVER LISBON'S DELAY IN SATISFYING THE ISLANDERS' ASPIRATIONS FOR BROAD AUTONOMY.4

ALTHOUGH THE MAJORITY OF AZOREANS PROBABLY STILL PREFER AUTONOMY TO OUTRIGHT INDEPENDENCE, EXTREMISTS APPEAR TO BE SERVING NOTICE THAT THEY CONSIDER PROMPT ACTION ON THE AUTONOMY DEMANDS THE FIRST ORDER OF BUSINESS FOR THE NEW GOVERNMENT.4

EANES ALSO ENCOUNTERED SOME DIFFICULTY THURSDAY AS HE CAMPAIGNED IN THE SOUTHERN PART OF PORTUGAL. SUPPORTERS OF ANOTHER CANDIDATE, THE FORMER SECURITY CHIEF OTELO DE CARVALHO, CLASHED WITH EANES' BACKERS IN SEVERAL TOWNS. IN EVORA, SOME OF CARVALHO'S SUPPORTERS ATTEMPTED TO STORM A CAR IN WHICH EANES WAS RIDING. DURING THE SUBSEQUENT MELEE, SIX PEOPLE WERE WOUNDED AND ONE REPORTEDLY KILLED.

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